

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the subject application. This Response is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed March 7, 2007. Claims 16-30 are pending. Claims 16-22 and 24-30 are rejected and 23 is objected to. In this Amendment, claims 16 and 27 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 16, 17, 19, 24-27 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Matayabas, et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0128521, hereinafter “Matayabas”). The Examiner has rejected claims 18, 21 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matayabas and further in view of Takeuchi (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0122242, hereinafter “Takeuchi”) and claims 20, 22 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matayabas.

Claims 16 and 27 have been amended to include limitations that the Examiner indicated to be allowable. Claims 17-22, 24-26 and 28-30 depend, directly or indirectly, from one of the foregoing independent claims.

Applicants, accordingly, respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103.

Allowed/Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicated that claim 23 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended claim 16 with the limitations of claim 23, and have cancelled claim 23. Applicants submit that claim 16 is now in condition for allowance.

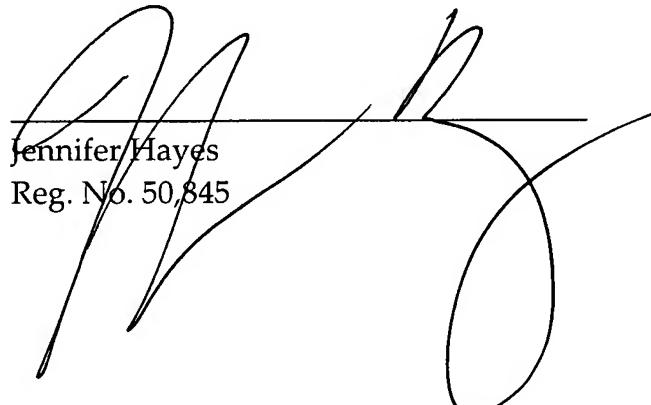
Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call Jennifer Hayes at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Any necessary extension of time for response not already requested is hereby requested. Please charge any corresponding fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,  
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